

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, between lines 2 and 3 (underneath the title), insert – Background of the Invention –; and

Page 3, revise lines 9-19 to read as follows:

–This problem is solved according to the invention in conjunction with the features ~~of claim 1~~ in that the multiple telescopic tube is provided with a clamping device which has a clamping engagement element. This engagement element may be brought into engagement with the outer surfaces of the inner tubes. On loading of the multiple telescopic tube in a longitudinal clamping direction, and thereby actuating clamping, the clamping device prevents displacement of the inner tubes relative to the outer tubes in this longitudinal clamping direction, ~~whilst~~ while the displaceability in the opposing longitudinal direction is maintained.